

Non-Government Reform Support Annual Report

2018

Queensland Catholic Education Commission

Non – Government Reform Support Fund

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Executive Summary

The Queensland Catholic Education Commission (QCEC) is the peak strategic body with state-wide responsibilities for Catholic schools in Queensland. In 2018 there were more than 304 Catholic schools operating across Queensland educating almost 147,000 students.

QCEC worked collaboratively with its constituent members, referred to as Catholic School Authorities, in the administration of NGRSF funding in accordance with its approved 2018 Work Plan.

Major achievements in 2018 focussed on three key priority areas:

1. **Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD):** QCEC supported Catholic School Authorities (CSAs) through funding activities designed to improve data quality and consistent collection of data on students with disability. QCEC's support in this area provided a centrally co-ordinated, consistent and comprehensive approach to NCCD training, monitoring, moderation and quality assurance processes across Catholic schools in Queensland.
2. **NAPLAN Online:** QCEC directed NGRSF funding to support Catholic School Authorities with the implementation of online delivery of the National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy. In 2018 QCEC provided a comprehensive and coordinated approach, working with CSAs, in the preparation of 114 Catholic schools for NAPLAN Online testing. QCEC will have a total of 167 schools participating in NAPLAN Online in 2019.
3. **Governance and Financial Management:** QCEC offered a number of programs to CSAs to improve governance and financial management practices in schools. These programs sought to enhance the strategic and operational capability of school leaders and Catholic School Authorities. NGRSF funding provided the opportunity for QCEC to administer development in the area of governance in a consistent manner.

Relationship with your state and territory government

QCEC continued to work closely with the Department of Education (Queensland) and Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ) to develop key reform priorities and enhance the effectiveness of the NGRSF in providing benefits across all sectors.

This collaboration culminated in the development and finalisation of the Bilateral Agreement between the Queensland and Commonwealth governments in 2018.

The agreement was developed after ongoing consultation between sector representatives which provided opportunity for the sectors to share information about their learnings from 2018 NGRSF funded programs. This process will ensure there is continuing opportunity for the NGRSF to achieve consistent and cross-sectorial benefits in future years.

Project Report

Summary of project's achievement

Project title	Achieved outcomes	Achievement against indicators of success
<p>NCCD</p> <p>Activities designed to improve data quality and consistent understanding of data collection and support across schools</p>	<p>Trainers developed consistent understandings and delivered consistent professional development in centres across the state.</p> <p>A more aligned and consistent understanding of the NCCD model and requirements led to reduced variability in schools, in both the how and why students were included, and the evidence collected.</p> <p>School staff developed more consistent knowledge and understanding in the application of NCCD processes</p>	<p>The development of a pool of NCCD trainers to support consistent implementation of NCCD across Catholic schools.</p> <p>1,237 participants engaged in training and moderation of NCCD processes</p> <p>Reduction (or absence) of anomalies in school level data across Catholic schools</p> <p>School level NCCD data is now more consistent between schools than in 2017 NCCD</p> <p>Absence or reduction of Australian Govt DET Data Branch queries related to NCCD from Catholic schools in Queensland</p> <p>No concerns have been raised by AG DET about data quality; AG DET were kept apprised of the progress of the QCEC NCCD project.</p>

Project title	Achieved outcomes	Achievement against indicators of success
<p>NCCD Quality assurance and moderation processes</p>	<p>School staff more consistently applied NCCD criteria and quality assurance processes in gathering data in their schools.</p> <p>Teacher capacity in understanding and application of the NCCD process was built.</p> <p>School moderation teams were established to plan for NCCD.</p> <p>NCCD data and evidence was more robust and consistent across Catholic schools within school authority areas.</p> <p>NCCD moderation was increasingly embedded in school practice.</p> <p>NCCD data and evidence was more robust and consistent across Catholic schools across the state.</p> <p>NCCD data and evidence will be more robust and consistent across sectors in Qld.</p>	<p>Audits of Catholic schools NCCD data finding appropriate evidence for NCCD decisions.</p> <p>No schools appear to have been identified for 2019 audits on the basis of their NCCD data.</p> <p>Consistency in overall QCEC NCCD data in comparison with quality data from other jurisdictions</p> <p>QCEC's overall NCCD percentage remains low at 14.6%.</p> <p>Comparison with other jurisdictions will possibly not be available until release of JWG report.</p> <p>Increased teacher confidence in applying NCCD Guidelines</p> <p>Formal written evaluations issued after each training and moderation session indicated increased teacher confidence in applying NCCD model</p> <p>Increased data quality and consistency across Queensland Catholic School Authorities and other Queensland education sectors</p> <p>Representatives from other sectors attended NCCD sessions conjointly but no formal cross sector moderation was able to be progressed through the state.</p>

Project title	Achieved outcomes	Achievement against indicators of success
<p>NAPLAN Online</p> <p>Training for Catholic School Authorities and schools</p>	<p>CSAs will be provided with consistent messages from the TAA (QCAA) regarding all aspects of successfully preparing for and delivering NAPLAN Online in 2018.</p> <p>NAPLAN Coordinators and School Technical Officers in transitioning Catholic schools will be fully informed about all aspects of preparing for and delivering NAPLAN online e.g. technical readiness/device checks, applying disability adjustments codes, creating test sessions.</p> <p>CSAs to ensure all Test Administrators have been trained in administrating the Assessment Platform to successfully deliver test sessions, e.g. creating session codes, monitoring student progress, dealing with disruptions</p>	<p>Participating Catholic schools complete NAPLAN Online in 2018 as per national success criteria.</p> <p>The Test Administration Authority (TAA) provided Refresher Training events, including sessions from sector representatives, to staff from participating Catholic schools.</p> <p>53 Catholic schools successfully completed NAPLAN Online in May.</p> <p>Minimal to nil protocol breaches reported to the Test Administration Authority (TAA).</p> <p>There was no official advice received in relation to any NAPLAN Online protocol breaches by the Catholic sector.</p> <p>Participating schools report positive feedback on the 2018 NAPLAN Online experience.</p> <p>The QCEC National Online Assessment Taskforce (NOAT) members overseeing the participating schools within their jurisdiction advised that their schools had a positive experience overall.</p> <p>Issues arising were monitored and recorded to inform future planning. Some issues were referred to the TAA and ACARA for further clarification. The TAA indicated that most helpdesk calls related to general test administration queries.</p> <p>Transitioning schools complete School Readiness Test (SRT) Gateway checks according to national success criteria.</p> <p>114 schools transitioning in 2019 undertook TAA SRT training, ICT infrastructure checks, prepared test schedules and participated in the Qld SRT event in October.</p> <p>Schools participating in the Platform Readiness Test (PRT) complete tests according to national success criteria.</p> <p>Four Catholic schools participated in the PRT event in the week beginning 29 October as per the national test strategy.</p> <p>Majority of Test Administrators report they are very confident/confident in administrating test sessions.</p>

Project title	Achieved outcomes	Achievement against indicators of success
		<p>Survey responses indicated that 99% of staff reported managing students during the SRT test session as <i>somewhat easy to very easy</i>.</p> <p>CSA representatives report increased confidence in supporting schools in preparing and delivering NAPLAN Online.</p> <p>Survey responses indicated that 99% of Catholic School Authority representatives were either confident or very confident of the ability of their school community to undertake NAPLAN Online following participation in training sessions and the SRT event.</p>

Project title	Achieved outcomes	Achievement against indicators of success
<p>Year 1 Phonics Check Trial</p>	<p>The trainer provided consistent understandings about the purpose and administration of the Phonics Screening Check (PSC).</p> <p>Year 1 teachers in participating schools completed the Phonics Screening Check by recording online the responses of Year 1 students onto a class template.</p> <p>Flinders University Australian Industrial Transformation Institute (AITI) administered a confidential quantitative online survey to Year 1 teachers/leaders. A representative sample of teachers and leaders was interviewed via telephone.</p> <p>Flinders University independent evaluation report due to QCEC in early February 2019 will provide key findings based on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. analysis of PSC results - student profile (gender, age, location, ASTI, EALD), phonics programs used in schools, analysis of PSC words, and letter combinations. b. Analysis of teacher/leader interviews – experience of administration and value and use of the PSC. 	<p>Training delivered to all Year 1 teachers (approx. 50 teachers) in 20-25 participating schools.</p> <p>Training session held on 14 September 2018 at the ACU Leadership Centre, Brisbane by Dr Nicole Todd (USQ) for Year 1 teachers.</p> <p>Training delivered to seven diocesan staff and 42 leaders/teachers from 20 participating schools from across Queensland.</p> <p>Data tool developed to record student responses online.</p> <p>Year 1 teachers in participating schools successfully administer the PSC to Year 1 students by 2 Nov 2018.</p> <p>40 Year 1 teachers successfully administered the PSC to Year 1 students in first three weeks of Term 4 2018.</p> <p>40 teachers completed and submitted a class template recording student correct/incorrect responses to QCEC by 25 October 2018.</p> <p>High response rate to teacher/leader survey.</p> <p>90% response rate for teacher online survey (36/40). 80% response rate for the principal/leader online survey (16/20)</p> <p>High response rate to the telephone interviews.</p> <p>87% response rate for the teacher telephone interviews (13/15) 100% response rate for the principal/leader telephone interviews (8/8)</p> <p>Independent evaluation report completed and provided to QCEC by 31 Dec 2018.</p> <p>Final independent evaluation report was provided to QCEC mid-February 2019.</p>

Project title	Achieved outcomes	Achievement against indicators of success
<p>Governance and financial management for Catholic Schools</p>	<p>This project aims to support and develop the executive management capabilities and capacities of school leaders within catholic schools throughout Queensland. This will ensure our schools are operated and governed in the most effective manner and our students are receiving the best possible opportunities to realise their learning potential.</p> <p>Participants in this program will take part in a post-program self-assessment and will provide feedback via various qualitative and quantitative methods.</p>	<p>Up to 300 senior leaders will receive high-level training in governance and financial management.</p> <p>In 2018, 228 senior leaders received high-level training in governance and financial management through NGRSF funded programs, Leading with Integrity for Excellence: Governance for Catholic Schools (LWIE) or an approved alternate (Toowoomba).</p> <p>More than 60% of participants will report enhanced capabilities in executive leadership skills in the areas of governance, financial management, strategic leadership, performance management, ethics and health, safety and student wellbeing. (as measured by survey questionnaire) More than 60% of participants will express increased confidence in their governance and financial management skills and understandings.</p> <p>Participants in LWIE were surveyed in relation to their enhanced capabilities in six key areas: Governance, Ethics, Thinking Strategically, Responsible Stewardship, Safety and Wellbeing and Culture of Performance. Survey responses overall indicated 100% of participants ranked the enhancement of their capability and skills in these key areas after participation in the program as either very good or excellent (overall scores ranged from 4.2 – 4.9 out of 5, using a module evaluation scale: 1 Poor, 2 Fair, 3 Good, 4 Very Good, 5 Excellent).</p>
<p>Privacy Governance Forums</p>	<p>These sessions will assist Catholic School Authorities to develop appropriate governance arrangements, including updating privacy policies and data breach response plans, to manage new privacy compliance requirements and so provide increased protection of the privacy of</p>	<p>Up to 100 senior leaders will receive training in new privacy and data breach requirements.</p> <p>QCEC conducted a number of Data Governance Forums which were attended by a total of 125 senior leaders. The forums provided detail information on the legal, communications and practical issues in managing mandatory data breach notifications.</p>

	students and the broader school community.	<p>More than 60% of participants will report improved understanding of new mandatory data breach rules and laws (measured by pre and post activity surveys).</p> <p>93% of attendees surveyed report High and Very High improvement to their understanding of the new mandatory data breach rules and laws.</p> <p>More than 60% of participants will express increased confidence in their understanding of the governance issues related to changing data and privacy requirements (measured by pre and post activity surveys).</p> <p>89% of attendees surveyed reported High and Very High increased confidence in their understanding of the governance issues related to changing data and privacy requirements.</p>
Project title	Achieved outcomes	Achievement against indicators of success
Building Dynamic School Councils Workshop	The program will support the development of robust and strategic school councils which work collaboratively with school leaders and school communities on continued school improvement.	<p>Up to 100 School Council members will engage in training in governance relevant to schools.</p> <p>More than 60% of participants will report increased confidence in their governance and management skills as relevant to their roles as Board members (measured by pre and post activity surveys)</p> <p>This project was committed to in 2018 but has not yet proceeded. Ministerial approval was obtained to carry this project over for completion in January 2019.</p>
Student protection governance health checks	The health checks will assess and where relevant promote enhancements to the current use and application of student protection governance arrangements within Queensland Catholic schools and authorities.	<p>Provision of independent advice on the “health” of current student protection governance arrangements Health Check Report).</p> <p>More than 60% of participating Catholic School Authorities will identify ways to enhance the appropriate use and application of student protection governance arrangements within Queensland Catholic schools (as measured by survey instrument).</p> <p>This project was committed to in 2018 but has not yet proceeded. Ministerial approval was</p>

		obtained to carry this project over for completion in January 2019.
Financial management governance	<p>Consistency in the balance sheet management in Qld Catholic schools.</p> <p>Improved financial management skills for non-financial managers.</p>	This project was committed to in 2018 but has not yet proceeded. Ministerial approval was obtained to carry this project over for completion in January 2019.

Financial Statement

NCCD Coordination Project	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Reform Support Fund funding</u>	<u>Funding from other contributions</u>	<u>Total funding</u>
Teacher release		\$24,409		
Meeting and forum costs		\$270,264		
Salaries & Wages	0.5	\$119,360		
Superannuation		\$10,627		
Travel and accommodation		\$19,560		
		\$444,220		

NAPLAN Online Coordination Project	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Reform Support Fund funding</u>	<u>Funding from other contributions</u>	<u>Total funding</u>
Meeting & Forum Costs		\$100,472		
Salaries & Wages	1.5	\$217,919		
Superannuation		\$20,306		
Travel & Accommodation		\$3,619		
		\$342,316		

Year 1 Phonics Check Trial	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Reform Support Fund funding</u>	<u>Funding from other contributions</u>	<u>Total funding</u>
Independent Evaluation		\$15,202 (paid 2018) \$35,473 (early 2019)		
Meeting & forum costs		\$2,150		
Travel & accommodation		\$65,897		
		\$118,722¹		

Governance and Financial Management for Catholic Schools	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Reform Support Fund funding</u>	<u>Funding from other contributions</u>	<u>Total funding</u>
Meeting and forum costs		\$10,617		
Consultancy Fee		\$99,900		
Fees and permits		\$958,375		
Salaries & Wages	0.15	\$25,679		
Superannuation		\$2,539		
Travel and accommodation		\$503		
		\$1,097,613		

¹ NB: This sum includes an amount of \$35,473 committed in 2018 but actually invoiced on 21 February 2019 and paid shortly thereafter.

Privacy Governance Forums	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Reform Support Fund funding</u>	<u>Funding from other contributions</u>	<u>Total funding</u>
Meeting & forum costs		\$29,500		
Consultancy Fee		\$1,000		
		\$30,500		

<u>Overall expenses</u>	<u>Total FTE</u>	<u>Total funding from the reform support fund</u>	<u>Total funding from other contributions</u>	<u>Total funding</u>
Non-government reform support fund	2.15	\$2,033,371		\$2,033,371
2018 funding to be carried over to 2019 with Ministerial Approval²		\$2,416,679³		\$2,416,679
TOTAL NGRSF FUNDING		\$4,450,050		\$4,450,050

² QCEC made application for Ministerial Approval to carry over unspent NGRSF funds of \$2,431,609 to the Department of Education and Training (Cth) on 20 December 2018. On 10 January 2019 the Department advised QCEC that this application had been approved (copies **attached**).

³ Following end of 2018 year reconciliation, the carry over funds were identified to be overstated at \$2,431,609 in the application for Ministerial Approval to carry over unspent 2018 funds, when they ought to have been stated as slightly reduced figure of \$2,416,679.